

Message

From: Watkins, Jessica@Waterboards [Jessica.Watkins@Waterboards.ca.gov]
Sent: 8/31/2018 7:48:13 PM
To: Jackson, Tyree A [TAJackson@oaklandca.gov]
CC: Mach, Jimmy [JMach@oaklandnet.com]; Mary Boyd [mary.boyd@waterboards.ca.gov]; Schlipf, Robert@Waterboards [Robert.Schlipf@waterboards.ca.gov]; Chee, Michael@Waterboards [Michael.Chee@waterboards.ca.gov]; Johnson, Bill@Waterboards [Bill.Johnson@waterboards.ca.gov]; Mumley, Thomas@Waterboards [Thomas.Mumley@waterboards.ca.gov]; Husby, Peter [Husby.Peter@epa.gov]; Smith, DavidW [Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]; Feger, Naomi@Waterboards [Naomi.Feger@waterboards.ca.gov]; Valiela, Luisa [Valiela.Luisa@epa.gov]; Lincoff, Andy [Lincoff.Andy@epa.gov]; WILLIAMS, CYNTHIA [Williams.Cynthia@epa.gov]; James, Duane [James.Duane@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Coliform/e.coli levels in Lake Merritt
Attachments: 1808067 9L_Analysis FINAL 08 31 18 1034.pdf; 1808028 9L_Analysis FINAL 08 21 18 1155.pdf; 1808045 9L_Analysis FINAL 08 30 18 0811.pdf; 2018 sampling sites map.jpg

Hi Tyree,

We received information from U.S. EPA Region 9 that significantly elevated bacteria concentrations were measured in Lake Merritt on August 16, 23, and 30. Please investigate whether there is an ongoing SSO, cross-connection, or other source that could be impacting Lake Merritt and provide us with an update by next Tuesday, September 2. Please contact Peter Husby if you have questions about the attached analytical data and I'm around this afternoon if you have any other questions.

Thanks!

Jessica Watkins, P.E.
Water Resource Control Engineer
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone (510) 622-2349
Fax (510) 622-2460

From: Husby, Peter [mailto:Husby.Peter@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 11:54 AM
To: David W. Smith <smith.davidw@epa.gov>; Mumley, Thomas@Waterboards <Thomas.Mumley@waterboards.ca.gov>; naomi.feger@waterboards.ca.gov
Cc: Valiela, Luisa <Valiela.Luisa@epa.gov>; Lincoff, Andy <Lincoff.Andy@epa.gov>; WILLIAMS, CYNTHIA <Williams.Cynthia@epa.gov>; James, Duane <James.Duane@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Coliform/e.coli levels in Lake Merritt

Hello all,

The USEPA Region 9 Laboratory has been providing analytical support (principally coliform/e.coli analyses) to volunteer monitoring organizations in the east bay for many years. Volunteer organizations collect ambient creek and lake samples and bring those samples to the lab in Richmond for analysis. Typically, the groups collect weekly samples for 5 weeks to permit calculation of geometric means to assess their waters in terms of a standard.

We are currently analyzing samples from Lake Merritt, collected by a volunteer group. The levels of indicator organisms have been high, but the most recent samples, collected yesterday, are particularly high. In the past, E. coli levels over 100,000/100 mL in ambient East Bay samples have been found to be caused by active sewer overflows or breaks. The

volunteer groups have often contacted City Public Works Departments which have addressed the problems. In light of the high numbers, we felt we should let you all know about the results, as soon as possible, so you would be aware of the situation.

I am attaching the reports of the last three weeks here, as well as a map of the sample locations. If you have any questions please contact me.

Peter Husby
Laboratory Director
USEPA Region IX Laboratory
1337 S. 46th St.; Bldg. 201
Richmond, CA 94804
Phone: 510 412-2311
FAX: 510 412-2302
Email: husby.peter@epa.gov